



Local

OPEIU Journal

www.opeiu8.org

Vol. 20, No. 10

OCTOBER 2005

CALENDAR

Wed., Oct. 26

- MEMBERSHIP MEETING,
6:15 p.m., Hall 6.
- POLITICAL ACTION
COMMITTEE,
5:30 p.m., Hall 6.
- NEW MEMBER
ORIENTATION,
5:30 p.m., Rm. 238.

Office & Professional Employees International Union Local 8's Meetings are held at the Seattle Labor Temple at 2800 First Ave. (between Clay & Broad Sts.) Free parking under the Ellington Condos for Membership Meeting only.

On the monitor by the garage door, punch in: *011213#.

Email: opeiu8@opeiu8.org

www.opeiu8.org



Giving a thumbs up to their new contract are: Jeri Reasoner, Maria McGee, Tamra Fluke, Mindi Rumbles, and John Latimer.

Great Contract Win for Local 8 Members at Willapa Harbor Hospital

Congratulations to our union brothers and sisters in South Bend who on September 29 voted on and approved a new contract that guarantees wage increases of 15%-17% over a three-year period. Two additional steps were added to the wage scale, along with increases in shift differentials and wages. Members also saw market upgrades to certain classifications.

Besides great economic gains made, longstanding members at the hospital finally achieved their number one non-economic priority which was to make Willapa Harbor Hospital a "union shop," where everyone shares in building a strong union.

Thanks to the hard work and determination of the Bargaining Team: JoAnn Christen, John Latimer, Tony Nordin and Jeri Reasoner, and the unwavering support of rank and file members, after 20 years with "open shop," workers at Willapa can now rest easy knowing their Union's strength will not be weakened.

Again, congratulations and a big thank you to Local 8 members JoAnn, John, Tony and Jeri!

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MEMBERS IN ACTION

SHA Local 8 Member Comes Through for Katrina Victims



Tony Jamerson presents a check from Local 8 to SHA employee Rhonda Hue.

Tony Jamerson, longstanding member and Chief Steward at the Seattle Housing Authority, organized a fundraiser to help the large family of an SHA employee devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Local 8 contributed \$250 to help the family in need.

OPEIU also has hundreds of members in the south who were impacted by Katrina. Any Local 8 member who wishes to make a donation can make a check payable to OPEIU-Relief Fund and mail to Nancy Wohlforth, Secretary-Treasurer, OPEIU 1660 L Street, Suite 801, Washington, DC 20036.

Thank you, Tony, for taking action!

Remembering Shop Steward Roy Root

We're sad to share the passing of union activist and Shop Steward Roy Root in August after a brief battle with cancer. As a senior Facilities Maintenance Engineer, Roy was instrumental in helping his co-workers at Providence Everett Medical Center organize a union for the first time nearly ten years ago. Roy worked at PEMC for 24 years.

Roy's son, **Tim** and wife, **Carmen**, are also Local 8 members who work at Providence. Tim will follow on in his father's footsteps as a Shop Steward.

Roy was a friendly, kind man who will be missed by many.



Local 8 President Verlene Jones (at left) at the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) convention with new AFL-CIO Executive Secretary and OPEIU International Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Wohlforth (third from left).

WSLC endorses Rep. Dean Takko, ballot initiatives

At the Washington State Labor Council's 2005 Convention in Spokane, delegates representing affiliated unions from across the state took action on statewide ballot measures, proposed initiatives and one special election for State Legislature. A two-thirds majority of delegates present was required to endorse or oppose a candidate or initiative.



SUPPORT:

Rep. Dean Takko—Rep. Takko was endorsed in the 19th Legislative District special election for the House seat to which he was appointed after the 2004 election. In his first legislative session, he earned a 93% WSLC Voting Record.

Initiative 901—The Healthy Indoor Air for All Washington initiative would ban indoor smoking in public places and the workplace, protecting workers from toxic secondhand smoke.

Initiative 336—This I-330 alternative offers an effective solution to providing liability insurance for good doctors and improving patient safety. It forces insurance companies to justify rates, allows good doctors to continue to practice at affordable costs, limits frivolous lawsuits and guarantees citizens fair restitution for damages caused by bad medical practices. Remember: “330 is dirty; 336 is the REAL fix!”

King County Labor Council endorses Seattle Advisory Measure No. 1—This measure will allow every Seattle voter to “advise the mayor and City Council that every person in the United States should have an equal right to quality health care, and that Congress should immediately implement that right.”

OPPOSE:

Initiative 900—This Tim Eyman-sponsored initiative would drain money from our state's general fund—money better spent elsewhere—when the legislature already passed a sweeping performance audit measure this session. I-900 is not needed.

Initiative 912—The convention affirmed earlier Executive Board action to oppose this gas tax repealing initiative that removes funding for hundreds of highway safety and bridge maintenance projects. To save a few pennies per gallon, I-912 would cost us more by neglecting our roads, killing jobs and harming our economy.

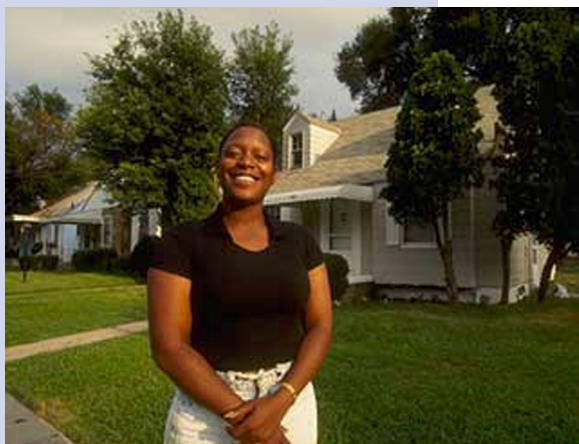
Initiative 330—The convention affirmed earlier Executive Board action to oppose I-330. Supported by the prescription drug and insurance industries, I-330 would hurt victims with legitimate medical malpractice cases. It caps non-economic damages at \$350,000, even in serious cases of medical negligence resulting in brain damage, loss of limb, permanent paralysis, or death.



*Remember:
Your vote is
your voice!
(Su voto es
su voz.)*

*For local
race
information,
check out
WSLC's
Voter
Guide at
[www.
wslc.org](http://www.wslc.org)
on the
Political
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Union Plus® Mortgage Program



Take advantage of the Union Plus® Mortgage Program from Chase Home Finance. It's an exclusive member-only program with benefits you can't afford to be without.

- Mortgage assistance benefit* that can help you make your payments if you or your co-borrower become unemployed as a result of a layoff, disability, strike or lockout.
- A wide variety of mortgages including loans for those with less-than-perfect credit or other unique circumstances.
- Save on closing costs.
- Provided for union members, their parents and children.

*This is another valuable program offered by Union Privilege for members participating in the Union Plus Mortgage Program. The assistance benefit can provide peace of mind for union homeowners, their parents, and children. You become eligible to apply for assistance benefits one year after you receive a mortgage through the Union Plus Mortgage Program.

Call to find out more about this valuable program at the Union Plus® Mortgage State Hotline (866) 729-6016.



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